

tures. Is his soul materialized in General French?

Then Von Moltke—is he directing the trench building?

And where does the iron soul of Bismarck come in? What love he had was for Prussia, but not a bit of it for the present Kaiser.

And what of the souls of the Russian fighters who through the centuries fought and died with imperturbable calm? Is the fiery soul of Skobelev watching and wishing that he might by his presence stop any further Russian retreating?

Going still further back, how about England's long line of heroes—Nelson, Marlborough, Drake, Howard, Richard the Lionhearted and the rest, and then the terrible Goth and the still more terrible Hun?

No voice comes back to give us reassurance that nothing after all is lost. There is no response to the wireless S. O. S. from eternities profound long distance.

Poor Mexico

OF course the Washington authorities know more of the present state of affairs in Mexico than the people do; it is possible that the decision to recognize Carranza as president of Mexico comes of a belief that thereby peace will be secured to that unhappy country, but we can see no hope for Mexico's future in the selection, for as we see it, could Carranza accomplish all he proposes to, it would simply relegate Mexico back to what it was fifty years ago, when the old Indian Juarez arose to free his country from a rule that had steeped the people in ignorance and superstition until they had lost every trace of initiative and accepted their nakedness without shame.

When, last year, Villa was fighting Carranza's battles, Carranza more than once gave expression to ideas that showed he would no more hesitate to be a murderer than Huerta did; in a recent interview he outlined what he proposed to do if successful, which, strictly construed, would not be much different from the reign of the infamous Weyler in Cuba; we do not believe that he hopes for any progress under his management, but does hope that he may steal enough from his impoverished countrymen to make himself comfortable when finally driven away.

It requires ages for a land to free itself from the grasp of a glacial period. Mexico is under a glacial period of ignorance and superstition which apparently has not yet begun to pass away.

About Preparedness

THAT was a most apt speech made by Senator Borah in Boston on Monday night. After speaking of the necessity of reasonable preparedness in a military and naval way, he called attention to the need of preparedness in another sense, by asking what would be done under the present free trade regime were the war in Europe to suddenly cease and the impoverished hosts of those lands be turned back and at pauper wages go to work to fill the world's markets with their wares? The world's markets would include our own. How long before there would be a cry for bread among our artisans? With them turned back in competition with less skilled toilers, how long before there would be an industrial war against which we are totally unprepared under our present policies? The danger of this ought to penetrate the free trade brains of the president and his majority in congress.

Aside from the national necessity the political necessity of his party ought to quicken the president's mind.

In the campaign of 1912 he and the platform of his party promised tariff reform, but he and his party leaders insisted that the tariff

should only be reformed down to what would be just, that business men need not be apprehensive. The promise was broken shamefully and the treachery was explained on the theory that when the new rule should be tried, the promise would be vindicated. Now it is clear that had there been no war the law by this time would have wrought such havoc in business as has come every previous time when such legislation has closed our factories, drained the land of money and driven skilled artisans to eat the free soup of charity.

Will Mr. Wilson and his party dare to go into another presidential campaign on the present showing?

If they do, not even Roosevelt and his dupes can save them.

But that is not the present concernment. What disturbs thinking men is what the condition of our own laborers would be were the war to suddenly stop.

There are too many idle men now. What would happen with peace abroad?

The War

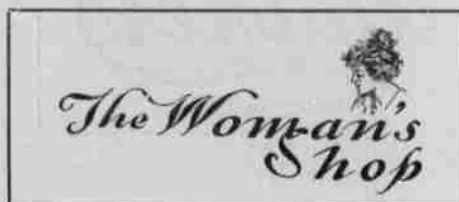
THE interest in the great war is centered now on the northwest and southeast fronts. In the coming two weeks the situation in the south-

east will be most eagerly watched. The drive down the Danube ought to be swift, but what will be done then? Have England and France made any preparations to save what they have won in the Dardanelles and to complete their conquest in that direction? The offensive of the French and British seems to be gaining a little, but at fearful loss. They are doing what the Germans did in Belgium a year ago, but like the Germans, at fearful cost. If their offensive was intended to prevent the German southeast advance, it has failed. That advance ought to cause the Allies most serious apprehensions for the fate of their army before Constantinople. A great German victory there would prolong the war. It would, too, be sounded through all Mohammedan countries and stir India and Egypt to their depths.

Was it in anticipation of this that the great soldier of Russia was sent to the Caucasus six weeks ago? Are a southern Russian army and a great section of the British fleet waiting the coming of the Teuton's southeastern drive?

And where are the Japanese fleet and army?

But which of the powers has any cause for rejoicing while contemplating the results of the past fourteen months' sacrifices? What has been gained except a vast area of new graves, millions



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